REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	28 July 1998
Name of applicant/court:	Comptroller of Customs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Tied!
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Star Distributors
Author:	Not Stated
Format:	Book
Country of Origin:	USA
Language:	English

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Not Applicable	Running time:
Trailers:		Running time:
		Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: No.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

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Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on Not Applicable

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The book entitled *Tied!* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The publication is a small soft-covered book which contains explicit, descriptive fictional accounts of sexual activity. Much of the sexual activity is of an extreme nature, for example involving violence, coercion and urination. Matters of sex, drug use, cruelty and violence are all considered significant in the classification of this book.

The publication falls under two s3(2) criteria of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act). It promotes and supports the use of violence to compel a person to participate in sexual conduct. This is particularly evident in two scenes of sexual activity at gun-point. Although the scenes may be part of extreme sexual play, the intention of the publication is to titillate the reader with violent, coercive imagery. The descriptions involve people being forced to participate in sexual conduct under threat of violence.

The publication also promotes and supports the use of urine in association with degrading conduct and sexual conduct. There are three instances in which urination is described in a titillatory manner as part of sexual conduct and on one occasion urine is used to dye a woman's hair. This conduct is considered degrading and is strengthened by the lack of control the woman has over the situation. In each instance these acts are written as part of a text which intends to sexually excite and entertain the reader.

The New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBR Act) has been considered in relation to this publication. The book tends to support and promote criteria under s3(2) of the FVPC Act and is therefore deemed objectionable. Section 3(2) of the FVPC Act takes precedence over s14 of the NZBR Act.

OFLC Ref: 9700853